



Town of Haverstraw
Police Department
101 West Ramapo Road
Garnerville, New York 10923



PETER G. MURPHY
CHIEF OF POLICE

PRESS RELEASE

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On Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at approximately 1:50 pm the Haverstraw Police Department responded to a disturbance call at the 7-11 store located at 75 North Central Highway in Garnerville.

A verbal dispute occurred between two persons later identified as Sean Deloatch and Jason Mendez which lead to Mendez intentionally driving his vehicle into Deloatch and his family. The vehicle struck with such force it continued into the building, heavily damaging the front of the building. The driver then backed up the vehicle and drove forward a second time striking Deloatch and his family.

Upon arrival to the scene Officers encountered Jason Mendez, the driver of the vehicle and ordered him out of the vehicle. When Mendez exited, he was brandishing a knife at the Officers. He was ordered to drop the knife numerous times and when he refused the Officers utilized a TASER, subdued and were able to place him into custody without further incident.

All eight family members (mother, father, and six children) suffered multiple injuries and were transported to Montefiore Nyack Hospital. The mother, Melissa Deloatch, age 32, sustained life-threatening injuries and passed away at the hospital.

The father, Sean Deloatch and three of the children were then transferred from the Montefiore Nyack Hospital to Westchester Medical Center for serious but not life-threatening injuries.

An investigation by the Town of Haverstraw Police Department Detective Bureau led to the following charges being lodged against Jason Mendez, age 35 of Toleman Road in Washingtonville, New York.

- **MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE (1 Count)**
- **ATTEMPTED MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE (7 Counts)**
- **MENACING IN THE SECOND DEGREE**
- **CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A WEAPON IN THE FOURTH DEGREE**
- **RESISTING ARREST**

Jason Mendez was arraigned in The Town of Haverstraw Justice Court Wednesday night, by the Honorable Judge John Grant on the above charges. Jason Mendez was remanded to the Rockland County Correctional Center.

The Town of Haverstraw Police Department would like to thank the responding police agencies that assisted in this tragic incident and investigation including the Stony Point Police Department, Rockland County Sheriff's Office and the New York State Police.

Additionally, the Town of Haverstraw Police Department would like to thank the Haverstraw Ambulance Corps, Rockland Mobile Care, and the various other EMS agencies and personnel who responded to assist in the care for the victims of this tragic incident.

Captain Martin Lund



Jason Mendez (2/10/1984)